# Obituaries

## Michael Johnson Powell

Michael Johnson Powell, 57, died Thursday, Dec. 27, 2001.

He was a native of Fox Hill and had been a Poquoson resident for the past 25 years.

He retired in 1996, following 20 years of service as a tugboat captain and local waterman for Express Marines of New Jersey. He was a member of Wallace Memorial United Methodist Church, Waterman's Association, Lafayette Gun Club, the Carrollton Hunt Club, North Carolina Beachbuggy and the Virginia State Firemen's Association. He was the vice-president of the Poquoson Volunteer Fire Company.

He is preceded in death by his stepdaughter, Leslie G. Forrest and grandparents, Sydney and Myrtle Johnson, and William and Clara Powell.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Sue Powell; daughter, Kristie Powell; grandchildren, Jason Lyle Forrest and Haley Brooke Forrest; parents, Sidney C. and Geneva J. Powell; and brother, Sidney C. Powell.

Funeral services, officiated by the Rev. O.H. Burton Jr., were held Dec. 31, 2001, at Tabernacle United Methodist Church Burial took place in Parklawn Memorial Park with firemen's honors.

Memorial contributions may be made to Poquoson Volunteer Fire Company, 1035 Poquoson Ave., Poquoson, VA 23662.

## Paul Newton Craig

Paul Newton Craig, 87, of West End in Gloucester, died Thursday, Dec. 27, 2001.

A native of Pitcairn, Pa., Mr. Craig lived on the Peninsula since 1935, retiring from Newport News Shipbuilding in 1973. His wife, Marian Howell Craig, preceded him in death.

Survivors include two sons, Paul F. Craig of Yorktown and Richard D. Craig of Poquoson.

Services were private.

## Henry 'Smitty' Rawls Smith

Capt. Henry 'Smitty' Rawls Smith, 90, died Saturday, Dec. 29, 2001.

Capt. Smith was a native of Norfolk, the oldest child born to Charles B. Smith and Isabel Roper Smith. In 1926, his family moved to Newport News, where he attended Newport News High School.

His first and only job was at C&O Railroad, where he started as a deck hand in 1928 at the age of 17. He retired from the railroad in 1975 after 47 years of service.

He was preceded in death by his first wife, Minnie Marsh Smith and is survived by his wife of 17 years, Marion M. Smith; his son, Henry R. Smith Jr. and his wife, Pat, of Yorktown; stepdaughters Jeanne M. Diggs of Poquoson and Pamela M. Diggs of Seaford; 11 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Jan. 2, in Peninsula Memorial Park by the Rev. Wilbur Rochelle.

## Ann J. Harris

Ann Joyce Harris, 72, died Sunday, Dec. 30, 2001.

A lifelong resident of the Peninsula, she was employed for several years at the Buckroe Laudromat.

Mrs. Harris was preceded in death by her husband, Charles R. Harris Sr.; a son, Charles R. Harris Jr.; and a daughter, Caron Lee Harris.

Survivors include daughter Joyce Ann Campbell and her husband, David, of Yorktown; sisters Alma Moore Behler of Poquoson and Dorothy Moore Hamilton of Yorktown; 30 grandchildren; and 27 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 3, at Amory Funeral Home Chapel in Grafton. Burial followed in Parklawn Memorial Park in Hampton.

## Marion Reese Spencer Berryman

Marion Reese Spencer Berryman, 92, daughter of the late Thomas Floyd and Caroline Andrews Spencer, died Sunday, Dec. 30, 2001, in Williamsburg Community Hospital. Her husband, John J. Berryman Jr., preceded her in death.

A native of Newport News, she taught at Magruder Elementary School. She was a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Yorktown, and a member of St. Luke's Gertrude Carmines Circle. She was also a member of the Williamsburg Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Association of Retired Persons.

Active in the community, she served as secretary of the Chesapeake District of the Virginia Cooperative Education Association and retired from the Peninsula YMCA in 1973.

Survivors include a son, John J. Berryman III and his wife, Gertrude Berryman, of Yorktown; five grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and nine step-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4, at St. Luke's. Interment followed in Peninsula Memorial Park.

Contributions may be made to the American Diabetes Association or St. Luke's.

## Katherine J. Wilem

Katherine J. Wilem, 74, died Sunday, Dec. 30, 2001.

She was born in Lynchburg April 26, 1927, to Bernice Thompson and B.M. Jones Sr. She resided most of her life in Hampton and Newport News.

Her brother, B.M. "Bill" Jones Jr. of Lynchburg, preceded her in death.

A 1944 graduate of Hampton High School, she was a past president and active member of the Hampton Junior Women's Club for many years. Mrs. Wilem attended World Outreach Worship Center.

Survivors include her husband of 57 years, Richard Thomas Wilem; a son; a daughter; sister Bettie Jones Matthews and her husband, Arthur, of Poquoson; as well as a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 2, at Peninsula Funeral Home. Burial followed in Parklawn Memorial Park.

## Douglas A. Rhodes

Douglas Alan Rhodes, 44, died Sunday, Dec. 30, 2001.

A native of Takoma Park, Md., he was a Peninsula resident since 1974.

A graduate of Menchville High School and Old Dominion University, Mr. Rhodes was employed as an engineer for York County for the past nine years. He coached Little League and recreation league sports in York County and was a supporter of the Marlbank Mudtoads Swim Team.

His father, John F. Rhodes Jr., preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Karen Kelly Rhodes; daughter Stephanie Watkins; son Curtis Neale Watkins, all of Yorktown; and sister-in-laws Laura O'Connor and her husband, Mickey, and Sharon Furiness of Yorktown; as well as numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Memorial services were held Jan. 4, at Yorktown Baptist Church with the Rev. John Moxley officiating.

Memorials donations may be made to the York County Fire Department, P.O. Box 532, Yorktown, VA 23690, or the Marlbank Recreation Association Pool Repair Fund, P.O. Box 278, Yorktown, VA 23690.

## Raleigh B. Perry

Raleigh Bradford Perry, 87, of Yorktown, formerly of Hertford, N.C., died Monday, Dec. 31, 2001.

A native of Perquimans County, N.C., he was the widower of Ruth Levy Perry and the son of the late Reuben and Narcissus Brinn Perry.

He retired as an industrial plant manager with Carolina Solite, was a member of St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Yorktown, and a former member of Hertford United Methodist Church. He served in the Marine Corps.

Survivors include a son and his wife, Raleigh B. "Brad" Perry Jr. and Betty Ann; and a granddaughter, Ashley Ann Perry, all of Yorktown.

Funeral services were held Jan. 3, at Hertford United Methodist Church, with the Revs. Michelle Edmonds and Leonard Doucette officiating. Burial followed in Cedar Wood Cemetery.

## Helen Cox Brown

Helen Cox Brown, 78, died Tuesday, Jan. 1.

She resided in Richmond from 1950 to 1985 before returning to her native Poquoson.

Following graduation from Poquoson High School in 1941, she worked at M.H. Fishmans in Hampton. She married in 1944. After raising three children, she returned to work in 1972 as a customer service representative for Sears and retired in 1983 following 11 years of service.

She was a member of Tabernacle United Methodist Church.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Edward F. and Florene Bradshaw Cox.

Surviving members of her family include her husband of 58 years, G. Richard "Dick" Brown; a son, a daughter, Patricia Brown Kluge and husband, Bill, of Poquoson; four grandchildren; a great-granddaughter; and a sister, Gladys C. Moore of Poquoson.

Funeral services were held Jan. 5, at Tabernacle United Methodist Church, officiated by the Rev. O.H. Burton Jr. and the Rev. Milford C. Rollins. Burial took place in Parklawn Memorial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to Tabernacle United Methodist Church, Building Fund, 831 Poquoson Ave., Poquoson, VA 23662 or Poquoson Volunteer Rescue Squad, 1035 Poquoson Ave., Poquoson, VA 23662.

## Robina S. Garrett

Mrs. Robina S. Garrett, age 96, died Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2002.

She was in Banner Elk, N.C., with her niece for many years, but was raised in Newport News and also retired there for more than 30 years. She was preceded in death by her husband, Edward Bruce, and all her siblings, Walter Hermann, James Boyle and Isabella Williams.

A member of Arbondale Presbyterian Church of Banner Elk and a past member and elder of Denbigh Presbyterian Church she was a retired supervisor of the C&P Telephone Company serving for more than 40 years in Suffolk and Washington, D.C.

Among her survivors are four nephews, including Randolph Hermann of Tabb.

Graveside services were held Jan. 5, at Peninsula Memorial Park.

Memorial donations may be made to the Disabled American Veterans, P.O. Box 14301, Cincinnati, Ohio 45252.

## Herman H. Moore Sr.

Herman H. Moore Sr., 85, born in Poquoson and a lifetime resident of Hampton, died on Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2002, at his son's home in Poquoson.

Mr. Moore was retired from the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., following 40 years of service with the X-42 Pipe Department. He was also an active member of the Fellowship Class and Ivy Memorial Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by his wife of 52 years, Mildred B. Moore; six brothers and four sisters.

He is survived by two sons, including Herman H. Moore and his wife, Shirwin, of Poquoson; five grandchildren; five great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Jan. 4, at Ivy Memorial Baptist Church. Burial followed in Peninsula Memorial Park.

Memorial donations may be sent to Ivy Memorial Baptist Church or the American Cancer Society.

## Kenneth Hairfield

Kenneth Hairfield, 89, died Thursday, Jan. 3, 2002.

He was a native of Roanoke and retired in 1977 from Allied Chemical Corp., in Hopewell.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Carrie Arthur Hairfield; a daughter; two sons, including Glyn A. Hairfield and his wife, Nancy, of Yorktown; seven grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; a sister; and a twin brother.

Graveside services were held Jan. 5, in Peninsula Memorial Park, with the Rev. Frederick O. Forry officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial contributions be made to Youth Challenge, 332 34th Street, Newport News, VA 23607, or the Peninsula Rescue Mission, 3700 Huntington Ave., Newport News, VA 23607.

Compiled by Kathy Lee Hull

*The York Town Crier and The Poquoson Post publish obituary notices of local interest at no cost as a public service. Fax information to 890-0119.*

# Session

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and portions of York County, Hampton and Newport News. Williams has been a member of the Senate since 1996. In 2001, he chaired the Transportation Committee and served on the Commerce and Labor, Courts of Justice, Rehabilitation and Social Services and Rules committees. Locally he can be reached at 599-8683; in Richmond at 804-698-7501; email at SenDis01@aol.com

•Sen. Tommy Norment, Third District, represents parts of York County, Gloucester and Newport News and all of Accomack, James City and Northampton counties and the city of Williamsburg. He's been in the Senate since 1992. His assignments in 2001 were Commerce and Labor, Courts of Justice, Finance, Privileges and Elections and Rules. Locally he can be reached at 259-7503; in Richmond at 804-698-7503; and by email at District03@SOV.state.va.us

•Del. Tom Gear, 91st District, represents Poquoson, portions of York County and Hampton. He is a freshman. Locally, he can be reached at 851-2873; in Richmond at 804-698-1091; and via email at del_Gear@house.state.va.us

•Del. Melanie Rapp, 96th District, represents most of York County and portions of Newport News and James City County. She has been a delegate since 2001 and last year's committee assignments were General Laws, Conservation and Natural Resources, Labor and Commerce and the Chesapeake and Its Tributaries. Rapp can be reached locally at 886-1000; in Richmond at 8-4-698-1096; and via email at del_Rapp@house.state.va.us.

### Want to keep track of the session?

This year, citizens interested in tracking legislation during the General Assembly session can do so with a free bill tracking service. The General Assembly's Division of Legislative Automated Systems, DLAS, in partnership with the Virginia Information Providers Network, VIPNet, is offering the tracking service.

Users may track up to five bills in an online "profile" that they create. The new legislative tracing system is based on the popular Lobbyist-In-A-Box service, which has been widely used by professional lobbyists and public entities for several years to track the multitude of bills before the General Assembly.

Users of the free service can:

•Create their own "profile" that organizes bills by subjects or topical area by using search parameters (keywords, patrons, committees, subjects or code sections) that return a list from which you may select bills to add to your profiles.

•Elect to receive automatic e-mail notification when new bills of interest are introduced or changed

•Utilize reporting features including a comma-delimit format and a "composite view" or capsule summary of their profile that shows each bill's common title, patron(s), committee assignment and most recent action.

Citizens interest in accessing the free tracking service can find additional information at http://www.vipnet.org/liab/citizne.htm or at http://legis.state.va.us/LIS/Lobbyist.htm.

# Merge

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teachers and city employees live in York County and York County teachers and employees live in Poquoson.

"Even though they live in different political jurisdictions, residents of York County and Poquoson have much in common, and we're certain each will enjoy reading the news of the other," Meisner said.

The merger will make it much easier for the paper's small staff to do more and cover more, Meisner said. It will also eliminate some of the duplication that was necessary with publishing two separate papers that contained some of the same information.

"And that makes sense economically," Meisner explained. "Everyone knows what's happening to the national and state economy, and it isn't good. As the bad news trickles down to small businesses, each of them is looking for ways to continue producing at a profit while cutting expenses. This move will permit Spectrum Publishing to do just that," he added.

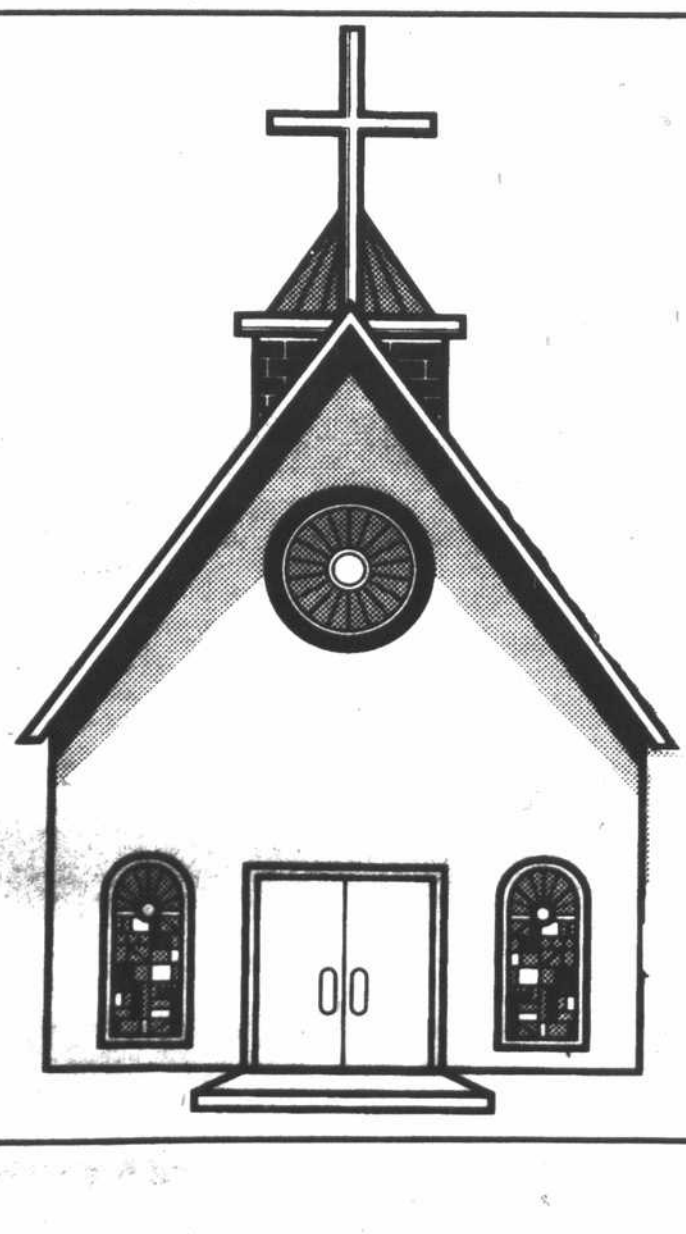
"We plan to spread some of those savings around, too," Meisner said. "Beginning Jan. 1, advertising rates have decreased. Things are tight everywhere, and if we can save some money by merging the papers, our advertisers will probably appreciate our passing some of those savings on to them."

For the short term, here's how the merger will look. Both mastheads will appear on the paper's front page. Inside, Crier readers will find their familian interior pages and Post readers will be able to spot their specific pages, which will be printed in a way, which makes separating them from the rest of the paper easy.

York readers will still have their community, school, and calendar pages - and so will Poquoson readers, who will also have an "inside" front page for their news. Sports coverage for both communities will share a page or pages toward the back of the paper. Obituaries for both communities will also share a page, and a single church page will include information for both York County and Poquoson.

"Over the next couple of months, we'll be looking at ways to redesign the combined papers in a way which marries many of the type faces and conventions into a single style," Meisner said. "Until then, we want readers who subscribe to either the Crier or The Post to be reassured that they're getting what they're used to -- and more."

*Publisher's note: There are a few individuals and organizations that receive a subscription to both the York Town Crier and The Poquoson Post. These subscribers should contact Jean Woodworth at 898-7225 so she can merge the accounts.*



*A Community of Faith*

*York County and Poquoson are deeply spiritual communities, peopled by faithful members of a large number of houses of worship. On Jan. 30, the York Town Crier and The Poquoson Post will explore the churches and congregations which make up these communities of faith.*

*To be included in this special publication, please call 898-7225.*